

Election

Bangkok 463, Oct 9 1964

Press (during week) emphasized Khanh's position increasingly shaky with no promising alternatives to his rule, while capability US influence hampered by election year. Siam Nikorn asserted President unable during campaign make final decision "send planes bomb North Vietnam" and said US aid to weak military government which unable depend upon either people or soldiers seemed politically motivated.



COUPS

Alert 9 Nov of Thai military units and police was PM Thanom's means of telling coup plotters that he was aware of their intriguing and annoyed by it. This action usually puts a damper on scheming for a while.

The alert this time was precipitated by the activities of young officers who are said to have planned to take over the gov during Thai Armed Forces Day celebrations on 8 and 9 Nov. Thanom reportedly knew about their conniving as early as the 5th; Dep PM Praphat did too, but he was unable to get permission to arrest the plotters.

